

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An accommodating intraocular lens for implantation in an eye having an optical axis, said lens comprising:

an anterior portion comprised of a viewing element, said anterior viewing element comprised of an optic having a refractive portion with a refractive power of less than 55 diopters;

a posterior portion comprised of a viewing element;

said lens having an optical axis which is adapted to be substantially coincident with the optical axis of the eye upon implantation of said lens;

said posterior viewing element comprising an optic arranged substantially coaxially with said anterior optic on said optical axis of said lens, said posterior optic having a larger diameter than said refractive portion of said anterior optic, said posterior optic comprising a peripheral portion having positive refractive power and extending radially away from said optical axis of said lens beyond the periphery of said refractive portion of said anterior optic, so that at least a portion of the light rays incident upon the posterior optic can bypass said refractive portion of said anterior optic.

2. The lens of Claim 1, wherein said refractive portion of said anterior optic has a diameter of about 3 millimeters or less.

3. The lens of Claim 1, wherein said anterior optic further comprises a peripheral portion extending radially outward from said refractive portion away from said optical axis of said lens, said peripheral portion of said anterior optic having substantially zero refractive power.

4. The lens of Claim 1, wherein said posterior optic further comprises a central portion extending radially inward from said peripheral portion toward said optical axis of said lens, said central portion having a negative refractive power.

5. The lens of Claim 1, wherein said refractive portion of said anterior optic has a refractive power of less than 30 diopters.

6. The lens of Claim 1, wherein said peripheral portion of said posterior optic has a refractive power of about 20 diopters.

7. An accommodating intraocular lens for implantation in an eye having an optical axis, said lens comprising:

an anterior portion comprised of a viewing element, said anterior viewing element comprised of an optic having a refractive power of less than 55 diopters;

a posterior portion comprised of a viewing element;

said lens having an optical axis which is adapted to be substantially coincident with the optical axis of the eye upon implantation of said lens;

said posterior viewing element comprising an optic arranged substantially coaxially with said anterior optic on said optical axis of said lens, said posterior optic having a larger diameter than said anterior optic, said posterior optic comprising a peripheral portion having positive refractive power and extending radially away from said optical axis of said lens beyond the periphery of said anterior optic, so that at least a portion of the light rays incident upon the posterior optic can bypass said anterior optic.

8. The lens of Claim 7, wherein said anterior optic has a diameter of about 3 millimeters or less.

9. The lens of Claim 7, wherein said posterior optic further comprises a central portion extending radially inward from said peripheral portion toward said optical axis of said lens, said central portion having a negative refractive power.

10. The lens of Claim 7, wherein said anterior optic has a refractive power of less than 30 diopters.

11. The lens of Claim 7, wherein said peripheral portion of said posterior optic has a refractive power of about 20 diopters.